

South King County Projects Update

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South King County traffic closures this week

Interstate 5

- On Tuesday night, Feb. 7, crews will close three lanes in each direction of I-5 between Military Road and S. 320th for pavement marking. Lane closures will begin at 6 p.m., with three southbound lanes closed by 9 p.m. and three northbound lanes closed by 11 p.m. The southbound exit to South 320th will close at 10 p.m. By 5 a.m. Wednesday we'll open all northbound lanes, three southbound lanes and the southbound exit to 320th. The far right southbound lane will open at 1 p.m. We encourage you to avoid this section of I-5 tonight by using alternate routes (such as SR 167) or rescheduling your trips.
- Wednesday and Thursday nights, Feb. 8 and 9, expect closures of three lanes of northbound I-5 between S. 320th and Military Road for pavement marking. The first lane will close at 6 p.m., the second at 7 p.m., and the third at 11 p.m. The northbound on-ramp from eastbound S. 320th will close at 10 p.m. All northbound lanes and the ramp will reopen by 5 a.m. each morning.
- Also expect nighttime closures of the left lane of southbound I-5 between S. 320th and the Pierce County line Monday through Thursday nights from 8 p.m. to 11 a.m. for concrete paving (weather permitting).
- See I-5 ramp closures at SR 18 interchange below.

State Route 18

- Crews will set girders Wednesday and Thursday night for widening the I-5 bridges over SR 18. Expect [lane and ramp closures and intermittent rolling slowdowns](#) westbound on Wednesday night and eastbound on Thursday night between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m.
- Crews will close lanes on SR 18 in the Kent/Covington area to install new cable guardrail in the median over the next two weeks. Expect [daytime and nighttime closures](#) of the left lane in each direction of SR 18 between SE 304th Street and SR 516.

New Federal Way transit center and HOV interchange dedicated yesterday

WSDOT and Sound Transit staff gathered with federal, state and local officials on Monday, Feb. 6, at 10 a.m. to [dedicate](#) the new Federal Way Transit Center and HOV direct access ramps. Sound Transit Board Member and Metro King County Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer emceed the event, and speakers included U.S. Senator Patty Murray, U.S. Congressman Adam Smith, Sound Transit Board Chair John Ladenburg, Federal Way Mayor Mike Park, and WSDOT Secretary Doug MacDonald.

The event was held at the new transit center, which opens for service this Saturday, Feb. 11. Speeches were followed by a [ribbon cutting](#) and a quick ride on a Sound Transit bus up S. 317th Street to the new roundabout intersection. Riders could see crews laying asphalt pavement on the HOV ramps so we can open them to traffic at the end of the week.

New I-5 HOV lane and ramps to open in Federal Way this week

After twenty months of construction, WSDOT and Sound Transit will open the new I-5 HOV ramps and bridge at S. 317th Street on Friday, Feb. 10, provided that the weather cooperates and there are no unforeseen delays.

The new northbound HOV lane will also open between Military Road and S. 320th Street. We've postponed the opening of the southbound HOV lane extension to prevent a serious bottleneck at S. 320th. The southbound HOV lane will open when we finish building the HOV lane south of S. 320th next year.

The [HOV direct access ramps](#) are left-side on and off-ramps, so carpoolers should use extra caution when merging onto the freeway. Drivers should also continue to watch for traffic closures and crews working in the project area, as more work remains to be done. This includes widening and building a retaining wall along the northbound on-ramp from westbound S. 320th Street.

We thank you for your patience during construction and hope you will enjoy the benefits of this project. To see a summary of the life of the project, visit our new [photo history page](#).

A user's guide to Sound Transit's new Federal Way transit center



Planning to use Sound Transit's new [Federal Way Transit Center](#)? Here are a few fast facts to orient you:

- Located at S. 317th St. and 23rd Ave. S.
- Opens for service on Saturday, Feb. 11th.
- Will be served by over 700 Sound Transit, King County Metro Transit and Pierce Transit buses daily.
- Garage includes approximately 1,200 parking stalls on five floors.
- Nine bus bays will accommodate the initial 15 routes serving the transit center.
- Restrooms and bike storage are available for commuters.
- Secure facility with security personnel, CCTV and emergency stations.
- Includes three public art elements by artist Clark Weigman.

Visit Sound Transit's [transit center Web site](#) to find out which buses serve the new transit center. And don't forget about the new Sound Transit Route 577, with non-stop service between Seattle and Federal Way every 15-30 minutes during rush hours. Also note that the Federal Way Park-and-Ride lot at S. 323rd St. and 23rd Ave. S. will still serve King County Metro routes 173, 174, 177, and 194.

Learn more about WSDOT's SR 167 projects at open houses next week

We invite you to learn more about our [SR 167 Corridor Plan](#) and [SR 167 HOT Lanes](#) projects at two open houses next week:

- Wednesday, Feb. 15, 6 to 8 p.m. at Sumner Middle School
- Thursday, Feb. 16, 6 to 8 p.m. at the Kent Senior Center

For more details, see our [Feb. 1 news release](#).

Highway advisory radio updates

Tune your radio to 1520 AM to hear a new project update each week on I-5 in Federal Way. Questions or comments? E-mail [Laura Johnson](#).

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